a new section might be added to the Irrigation Regulation enforcing the practice. The ryots should be encouraged to use artificial manure by showing its results in model farms in the locality or in the fields of some of the ryots.

He then complained about the encroachments, by the owners of the neighbouring fields, upon the channels useful for the cultivation of the surrounding area.

Dewan's reply.—Orders have been issued to the Division Peishkars to remove all the encroachments on irrigation canals and I understand that action is being taken by them. The other points mentioned by the Member are noted.

57. Agricultural needs of the Kunnatnad taluk.

Mr. Eravi Narayana Panikkar (Member, Kunnatnad taluk) said that the benefit of the Agricultural Department had not yet reached the ryots of the Kunnatnad taluk. A large area in the taluk was left uncultivated. If the department were to advise the ryots as to the kinds of seeds that would yield a good crop in those areas, a greater portion of the taluk could have been brought under cultivation. The irrigation tanks in the taluk were out of repair for very many years and had therefore become less useful for irrigating wet lands. Funds should be allotted to the Agricultural Department for the improvement of those tanks. The Chief Engineer should also be asked to see that water from the Periyar anicut did not flow into the cultivated paddy fields of the taluk when there were rains on the hills. The water now destroyed their crops very often. The ryots might be permitted, on a system of free passes, to remove from the neighbouring forests green manure and agricultural implements. He prayed that a manure depot and an agricultural farm might be opened at Perumbavur.

Dewan.—A manure depot has been opened at Muvattupuzha to serve the ryots of the Muvattupuzha and Kunnatnad taluks.

The Member continued and said that many varieties of cattle diseases were prevalent in the locality. A veterinary hospital was therefore necessary at Perumbavur.

Dewan's reply.—The Government have sanctioned the opening of a veterinary dispensary at Perumbavur. The Director of Agriculture says that within a week the dispensary will be opened there. The other points are noted.

58. Desirability of directing an Agricultural Sub-Inspector to stay at Alangad for three months every year.

Mr. N. Atchuthan Pillai (Member, T. I. C., Alwaye) said that no improved methods of cultivation were followed by the ryots of the taluk. They were ignorant of the use of manures and the way to apply them. If the Government were not prepared to open a demonstration farm at Alwaye, the people would be satisfied if an Agricultural Sub-Inspector would go to the place at the time of cultivation and advise them on the use of particular varieties of manure for particular kinds of soil. The cultivation season began in the months of Chingam, Dhanu and Medam, and during those months the ryots required the advice of the Sub-Inspector. The Member also complained that seed-bulls were never sent to the taluk for covering cows.

Dewan's reply.—There are officers of the Agricultural Department at Parur and Perumbavur, each ten miles from Alwaye. The Director of Agriculture will be asked to arrange for either of these officers visiting the taluk occasionally. The number of seed-bulls in the department is small and it is not possible to send them to all parts of the State simultaneously. Their number is being gradually increased.

59. Agricultural irrigation in the State, with special reference to the Quilon and Kottayam Divisions.

Mr. P. E. Govinda Menon (Member, Parur taluk) said that more than two-thirds of the population of Travancore depended mainly on agriculture for their livelihood, while the grain produced could maintain only about 30% of the people. The value of rice and paddy imported in 1090 was for that reason more than

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six times that in 1080. There was no possibility of extending the area under cultivation. The remedies were the introduction of agricultural improvements, the construction of irrigation works on a large and systematic scale throughout the country and the intensive cultivation of the area now under the plough.

There was no possibility of conserving rain-water for use in times of drought, and consequently when the season was not favourable, the crops failed completely. The state of affairs in South Travancore was different and the Government were spending large sums in the interests of the ryots there. In Central and North Travancore, where there was no system of irrigation by means of tanks, crops very often failed for want of water but remission of tax was not allowed in those cases. A few channels used for irrigation purposes had gone out of repair and their beds encroached upon and in some cases registered in the names of the owners of neighbouring wet lands.

Dewan.—Orders have been recently issued for the removal of these encroachments. The beds of these channels will be left intact. Further registry of the same has also been prohibited.

The Member continued and said that the extension of the cultivable area could only be achieved by throwing open for cultivation those portions of the reserved forests which were not of any practical use for forest conservation. Thousands of acres of productive land could be brought under cultivation by that method.

In regard to Central and North Travancore, the Member requested that the existing irrigation tanks and canals might be kept under proper repair and the scope of their usefulness might be widened wherever possible and advantageous to do so. A survey of the country should be undertaken with a view to ascertain the possibility of providing large storage tanks and of utilizing the many rivers for irrigation purposes. The work could be attended to by the staff of the Public Works Department without additional cost and at the same time many thousands of acres of wet lands, which were now ruined owing to the effect of drought, could be rescued annually. The Member then referred to the advantages that would result from the proposed Athirapalli Project in the Kunnatnad taluk though the outlay on it might be heavy. He was sure that it would be a re-productive work in the real sense unlike the Kodayar Project which did not even pay for its maintenance. The Member requested that the Project might be taken up at an early date.

Dewan's reply.—Noted.

(2) Other Industries.

60. The economic condition of Travancore and its industries.

Mr. K. C. Govindan (Member, Nominated) said that agriculture, commerce and industry were the mainstay of a country. No measures were now adopted in Travancore to give instruction in those subjects. General instruction in all of them could be freely imparted in the elementary schools of the State. The education the students received at the schools was not of such a nature as to be of any use to them in earning their livelihood. Only a very small fraction of the students that entered Class V of the elementary schools obtained the School Leaving Certificate, enabling them to seek admission in Government service. Those who did not obtain the certificate, and those who, having obtained it, did not get an employment, were unable to earn their livelihood by any means and their number was swelling from year to year. If only they had general education on any useful technical subject while at school, their fate would have been better. In reply to a query from the Dewan, the Member said that what he proposed was that industrial education should be imparted in all schools. Even with the advanced educational condition of the State, it was not easy to find one who had technical education. The education should be such as to improve the memory of the children, and they should at the same time be made to understand something of everything.

He was of opinion that an industrial survey of the State was now unnecessary. If the copra that was being exported every year were conserved here and

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